

SURGICAL DISEASES OF THE CHEST—Second Edition—Edited by Brian Blades, M.D., Lewis Saltz, Professor of Surgery and Chairman, Department of Surgery, The George Washington University School of Medicine, Washington, D.C. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, Mo., 1966. 687 pages, \$25.00.

Intended primarily as a guide to surgically amenable disease of the thorax and its contents, this second edition fulfills its prime goals. Lesions of the chest wall, lung, esophagus, heart, great vessels and associated unique diagnostic and surgical techniques are reviewed. As in any text utilizing many contributors, the thoroughness of each chapter varies with the individual author and his own interests. Trivial discussion is often given to the etiology, embryology, and pathophysiology of thoracic lesions, while pediatric problems are dealt with in a scanty or superficial manner. Individual approaches to acquired cardiac diseases are followed with little thought given to controversial or disputed issues of diagnosis therapy, or postoperative care. This type of editorial approach in a text mars a book that generally offers much for the medical student, thoracic surgical resident, or physician interested in quickly reviewing the general therapy involved in thoracic and cardiovascular problems. Recent advances in the treatment of coronary artery disease and the use of hyperbaric oxygenation are well thought out and profusely documented.

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PSYCHIATRY IN THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE—By Allen J. Enelow, M.D., and Murray Wexler, Ph.D., University of Southern California School of Medicine. Oxford University Press, Inc., New York, 1966. 355 pages, \$6.50.

This book is the outgrowth of the accumulated experience of the authors in a six-year program at the University of Southern California School of Medicine teaching psychiatry and psychiatric principles to practicing physicians. The book is primarily designed for practicing physicians, not only in the handling of psychiatric problems, which are present increasingly in every physician's practice, but also for a more meaningful understanding of the physician-patient relationship and the usefulness of psychiatric interview techniques for the evaluation and treatment of every patient. The book, however, would also be quite useful to the medical student, presenting an integrated approach to psychiatry in general medical practice, as well as a basic textbook and overview of the field of psychiatry itself.

The authors start with an excellent chapter on communication, its importance in the development of personality and in maintaining health, the disruptions of communication that occur at times of illness, and examples of more typical behavioral responses to illness—how they can be understood and how they can be dealt with. There are two chapters on diagnostic technique in an interview situation. The first is concerned with the analysis of what goes on in an interview, both in terms of process and content. It also outlines general principles of how the physician can most effectively guide the interview. The authors give their own classification of the nature and function of various kinds of interventions made by the interviewer which are made more meaningful in the following chapter, where a variety of clinical examples of interviews is presented and then discussed in terms of the techniques and the analysis.

The authors then present, in brief, a general psychiatric textbook. The chapter on the diagnosis of psychiatric disorders covers the whole nosology of psychiatric conditions with excellent brief descriptions and clinical examples. This is followed by a chapter on psychotherapy, presenting two techniques, i.e., process-oriented psychotherapy and supportive therapy, which the authors

feel could be used efficaciously by nonpsychiatric physicians. It is not made clear, however, when the physician should attempt to handle a psychiatric disorder by himself and when he should seek outside consultation. I felt there was an implication that any psychiatric disorder could be handled by the general physician if he so desired without a critical evaluation of the limitations and dangers in a given diagnostic situation.

Included is an excellent review of the psychopharmacological agents now in use in psychiatric practice and their usefulness in different diagnostic categories, with a number of excellent case examples. The authors warn of the dangers of using drugs to treat a given symptom complex without concomitant understanding of the psychological basis of the illness and without appropriate psychotherapeutic intervention. Again it is not made clear which illnesses can be safely handled by the nonpsychiatric physician and which are best referred to the psychiatrist.

There is an excellent chapter discussing psychiatric emergencies, which are often first seen by the general physician, with advice on how these are best handled. This chapter covers the suicidal patient, the acute anxiety reaction, the acute psychotic reaction, the acute postpartum reaction and operations. The book ends with a chapter on contemporary psychotherapies which can orient the general physician as to the various schools of psychiatric thought at present.

In summary, this is an excellent book which combines a psychiatric approach, both in theory and technique, to the doctor-patient relationship and the psychiatric conditions that often first appear in the medical office, with a basic textbook of psychiatry. In its enthusiasm to encourage the nonpsychiatric physician to handle psychiatric problems in his own office, it does not adequately delineate those situations which are best referred to the psychiatrist.

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CHILDREN OF TIME AND SPACE, OF ACTION AND IMPULSE—Clinical Studies on the Psychoanalytic Treatment of Severely Disturbed Children—By Rudolf Ekstein, Ph.D., Director, Project: Childhood Psychosis, Reiss-Davis Child Study Center, Los Angeles, Calif.; with contributions by Elaine Caruth, Ph.D.; Seymour W. Friedman, M.D.; Arthur Mandelbaum, M.S.W.; Judith Wallerstein, M.S.W., and Dorothy G. Wright, M.D. Appleton-Century-Crofts (A Division of Meredith Publishing Company), New York, N.Y., 1966. 466 pages, \$8.75.

This is an excellent book, absorbing to read. The hard-won data concerning severe psychological illness in children are presented in many different ways. The children themselves, their impairment of functions, their harassing illnesses and their treatment are described vividly, in detail, macroscopically and microscopically . . . and over time. Many issues of clinical importance are discussed: Some of these are the complexity and use of diagnostic hours; the effects of the psychotherapist's interventions and interpretations; the effect of the patient on the people around him; the successes and failures of treatment interventions; the delineation of fluctuating states of personality functions in these children. Some of the issues of theoretical importance discussed are: The evolution of psychological functions in sick and well individuals; the nature of action, thought, play, speech; the child's capacity to use objects—both people and inanimate objects—in the creation of his inner world.

Physicians with psychological interests will find this work of great value. I fear that some physicians will be discouraged by sections which use technical psychological and psychoanalytic concepts. It would be very much worth